



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** <sup>®</sup>  
New England District  
696 Virginia Road  
Concord, MA 01742-2751

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# PUBLIC NOTICE

**Comment Period Begins: July 20, 2021**  
**Comment Period Ends: August 19, 2021**  
**File Number: NAE-2019-01078**  
**In Reply Refer To:**  
**Phone: (978) 318-8295**  
**E-mail: Lindsey.E.Lefebvre@usace.army.mil**

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The District Engineer has received a permit application to conduct work in waters of the United States from The City of Portsmouth at 680 Peaverly Hill Road, Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801. This work is proposed in Little Bay at 180 Piscataqua Road, Durham, New Hampshire and Fox Point, Newington, New Hampshire. The site coordinates are: Latitude 43.12393°N, Longitude -70.86338°West.

The work involves both direct permanent and temporary discharges of dredged and fill material into wetlands and Waters for the United States (WoUS) along the proposed crossing of Little Bay between Durham and Newington (Fox Point) to install a drinking water transmission main. The City of Portsmouth currently owns and maintains a 6-mile cross-country drinking water transmission main which supplies over 60% of the drinking water used in the City's regional water system. The existing transmission main was built in the 1950s and consists of two, parallel cast iron water mains, approximately 3,200 ft long. Replacement of this crossing is proposed because the existing mains have experienced significant corrosion and the replacement will increase the reliability of this drinking water transmission main.

The proposed project involves installing a new 24" high density polyethylene (HDPE) water main on the ocean floor between the existing cast iron mains crossing Little Bay with connections to the existing reinforced concrete mains on either shore. The proposed installation method involves assembling the new pipeline on land and floating the pipeline into Little Bay. Since the HDPE pipe is buoyant, concrete collars are required to sink and anchor the pipeline to river bottom. At the intertidal zone and within portions of the tidal buffer zone, the proposed pipeline will be buried, via trench excavation, to protect the pipe from freezing, anchor drag, and tidal currents.

Impacts to wetlands and WoUS include approximately 0.12 acres of permanent impact to tidal waters (mudflat and subtidal area) associated with the proposed submerged pipe with anchors. Temporary impacts include 1.05 acres to tidal waters (mudflat and subtidal area) and 0.05 acres to salt marsh. Temporary impacts are associated with trench excavation and constructions access in both Durham and Newington.

The work is shown on the enclosed plans entitled "CITY OF PORTSMOUTH CONTRACT DRAWINGS FOR LITTLE BAY SUBAQUEOUS WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT," on 16 sheets, and dated "NOVEMBER 2020."

The water transmission main replacement project has been designed to avoid and minimize environmental impacts while increasing the reliability of this critical drinking water transmission main. To compensate for the project's projected impacts to waterways and wetlands, the applicant is currently proposing a contribution to the State of New Hampshire Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund (NH In Lieu Fee Program). Additionally, all

**CENAE-R**  
**FILE NO. NAE-2019-01078**

preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will not be substantial. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

**NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT**

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that the proposed work may impact properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Additional review and consultation to fulfil requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, will be ongoing as part of the permit review process.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION**

The USACE has reviewed the application for the potential impact on Federally-listed threatened or endangered species and their designated critical habitat pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect a listed species or their critical habitat. We are coordinating with the National Marine Fisheries Service and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on listed species under their jurisdiction and the ESA consultation will be concluded prior to the final decision.

**OTHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATIONS**

The states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have approved Coastal Zone Management Programs. Where applicable, the applicant states that any proposed activity will comply with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management Program. By this Public Notice, we are requesting the State concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

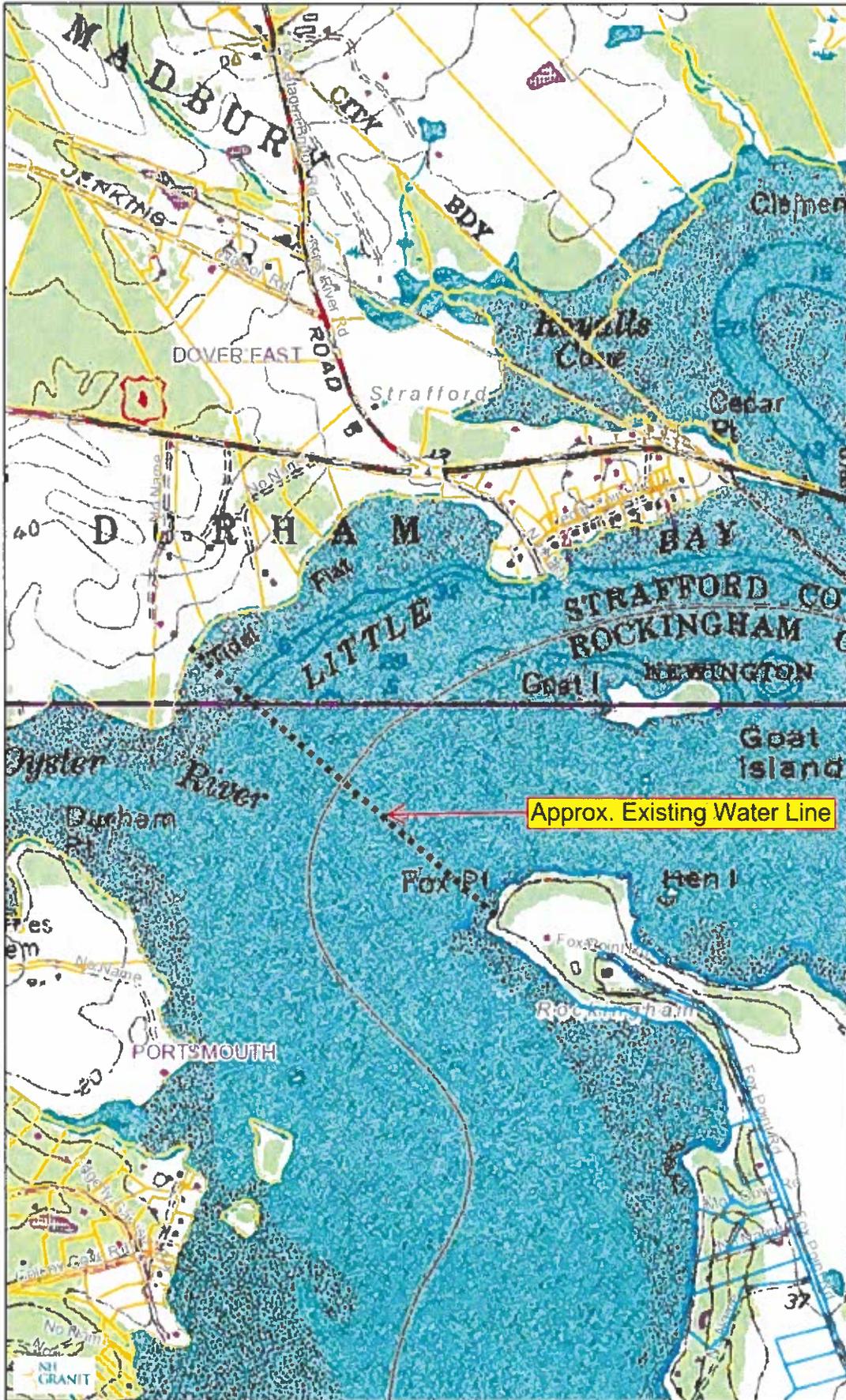
- Permit, license or assent from State.
- Permit from local wetland agency or conservation commission.
- Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

**COMMENTS**

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date. If you have any questions, please contact Lindsey Lefebvre at (978) 318-8295, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The USACE holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

# Subaqueous Water Main



## Legend

- Polygons
- Additional lines
- 7.5-Minute
- State
- County
- City/Town

**ATTACHMENT 1**

Map Scale

1: 12,988

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Map Generated: 7/29/2020

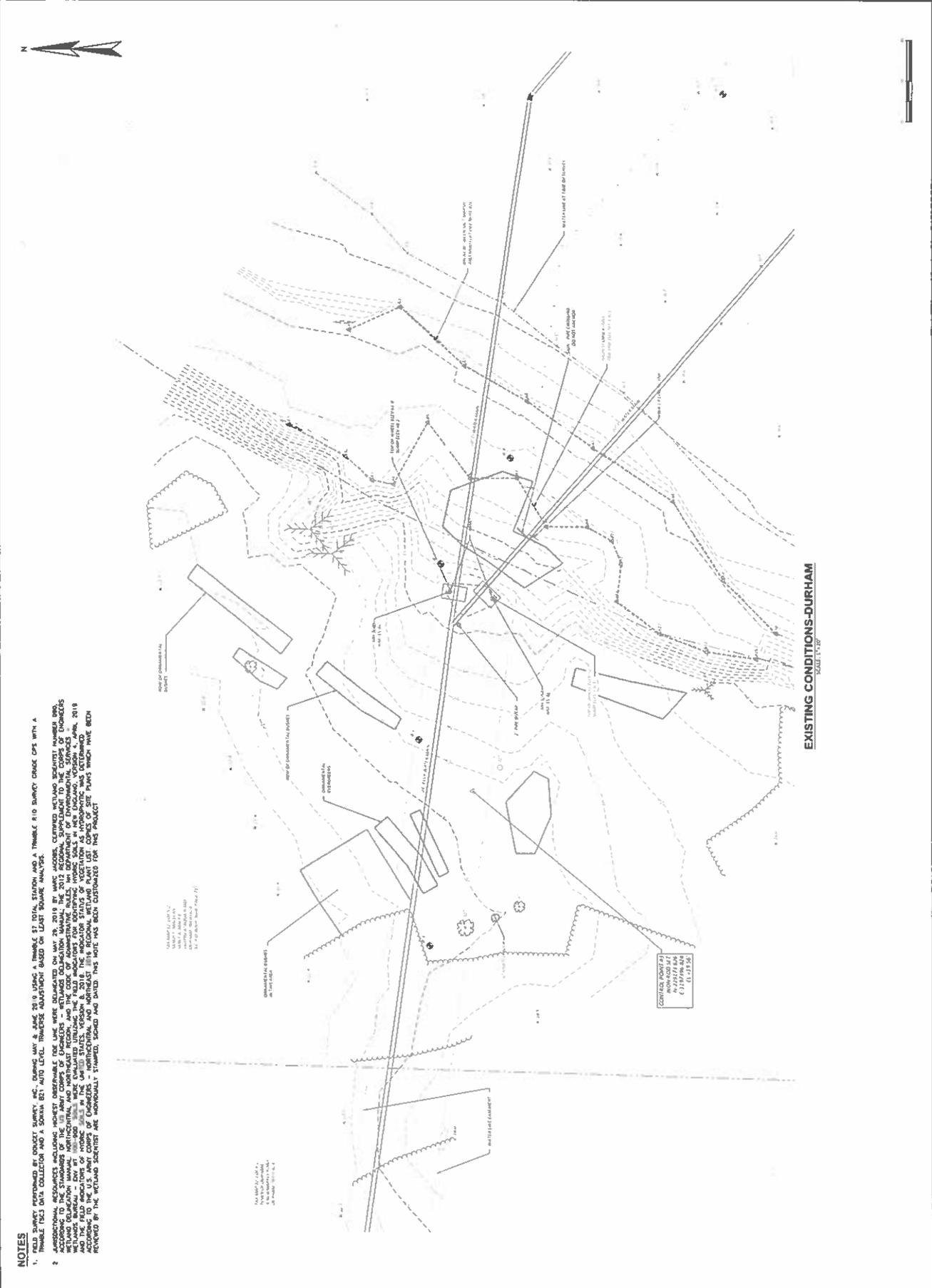


## Notes

USGS Dover East and Portsmouth  
Quadrangles







**NOTES**

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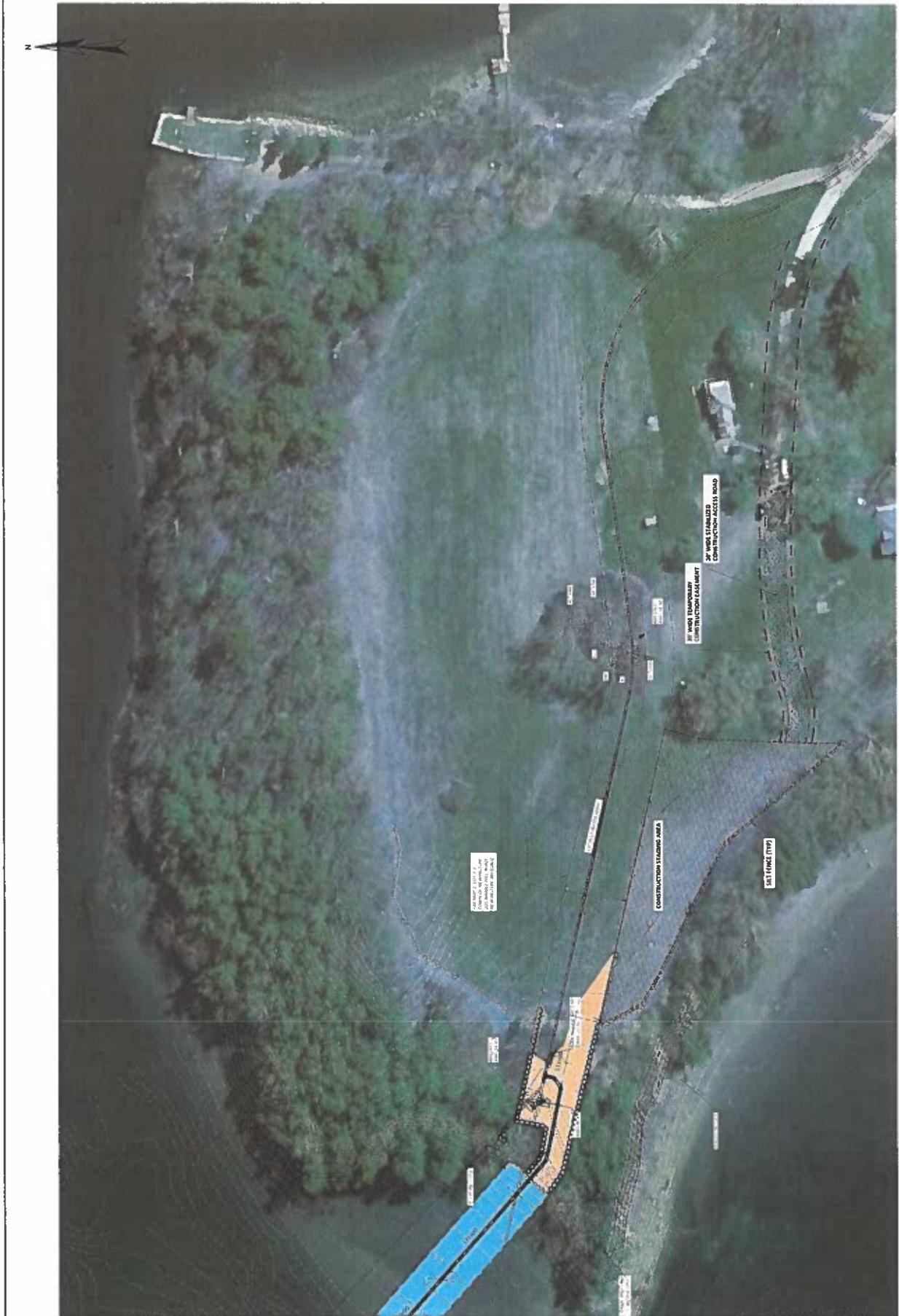
DATE	11/11/2022	BY	W.P.
REVISION			
NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY
1	ISSUED FOR PERMITTING	11/11/2022	W.P.
2	ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION	02/22/23	W.P.

PROJECT NO. 142924  
 SHEET 2 OF 2  
 CONTRACT NO. 142924  
 CONTRACTOR: W.P.  
 PROJECT: PISCATAQUA RIVER TRANSMISSION MAIN  
 LOCATION: DURHAM-NEWINGTON  
 DATE: 11/11/2022

**WRIGHT-PIERCE**  
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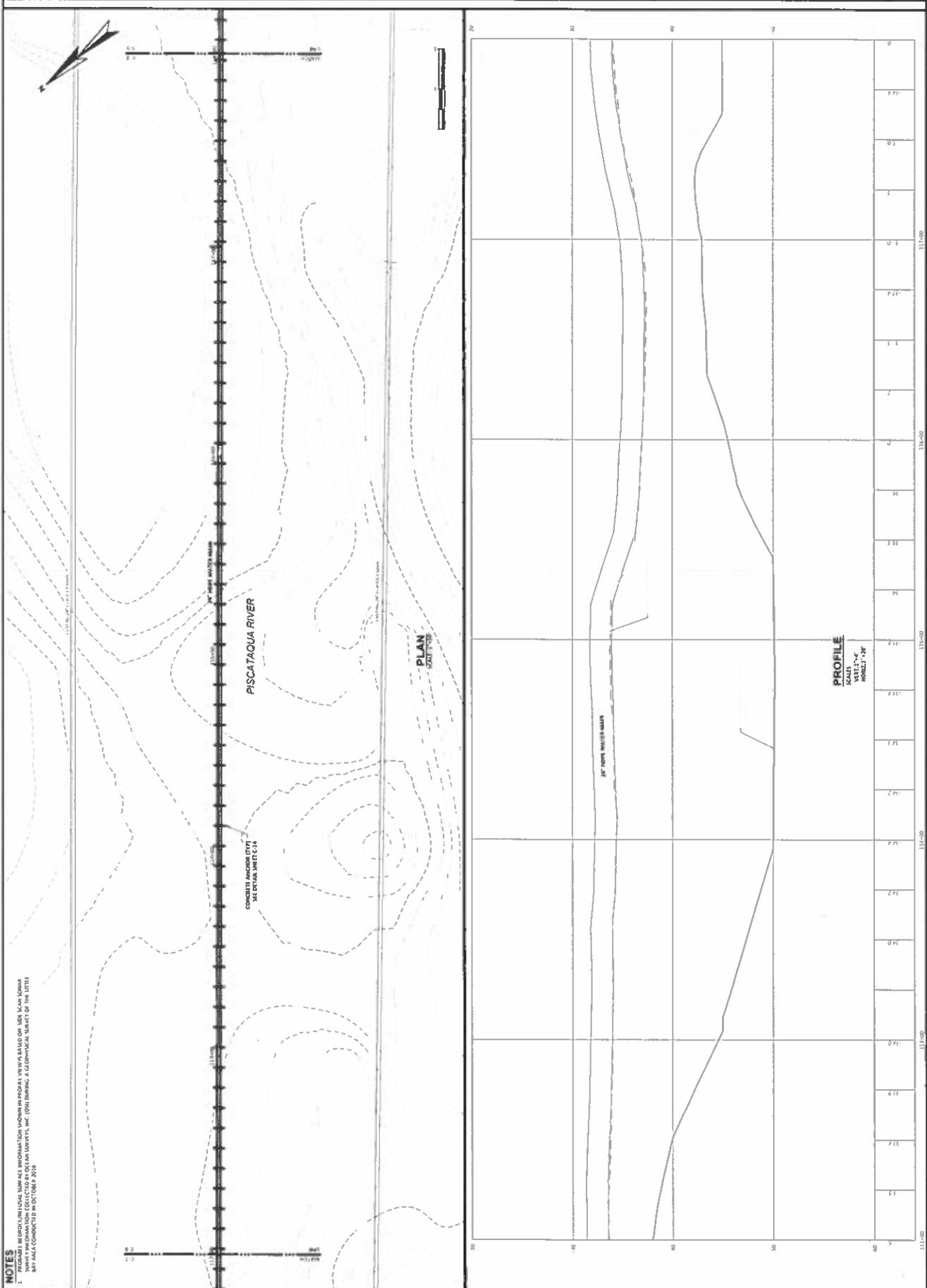
CITY OF PORTSMOUTH  
 PISCATAQUA RIVER TRANSMISSION MAIN  
 NEW HAMPSHIRE  
 CONSTRUCTION STAGING PLAN NEWINGTON

DRAWING  
 C-5



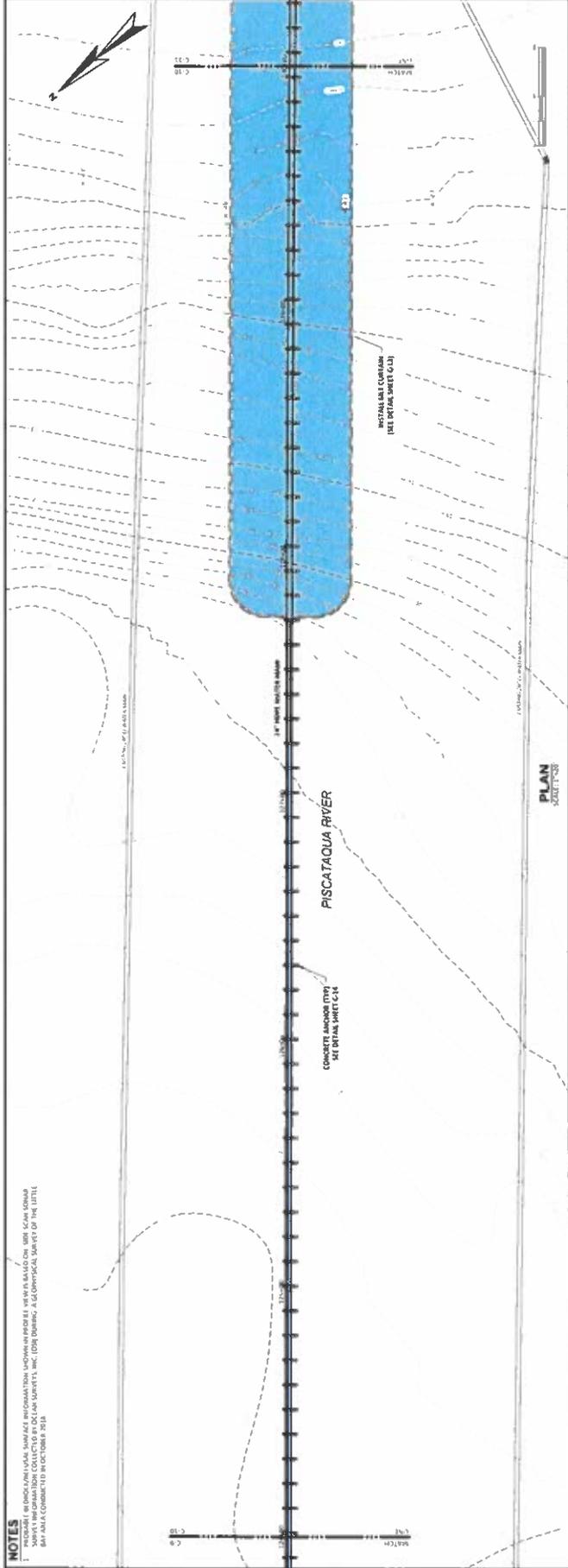
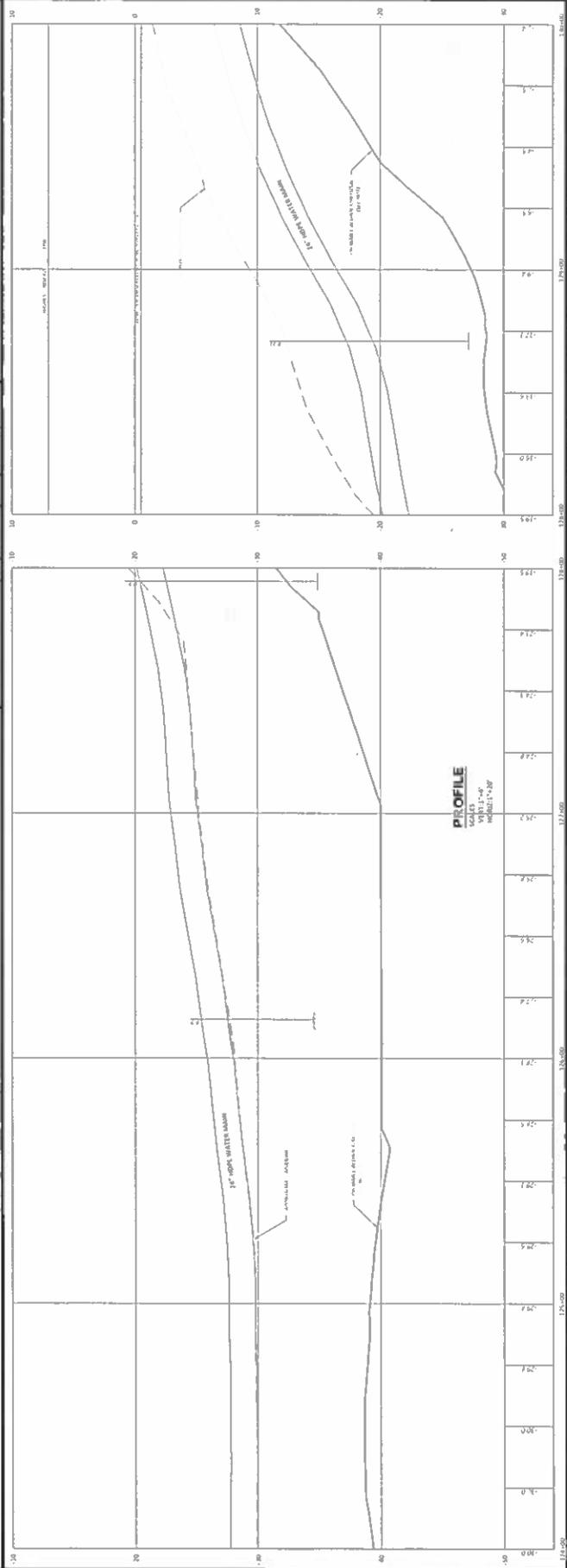
CONSTRUCTION STAGING PLAN-NEWINGTON SITE  
 SHEET 2 OF 2





**NOTES**  
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DATE	11/11/2014
PROJECT NO.	14027A
APPROVED BY	
DRAWN BY	
CHECKED BY	
DATE	11/11/2014
SCALE	AS SHOWN
CAD. W. CODE	
LAST DATE	11/11/2014
DATE	11/11/2014
SCALE	AS SHOWN
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LAST DATE	11/11/2014



**NOTES**

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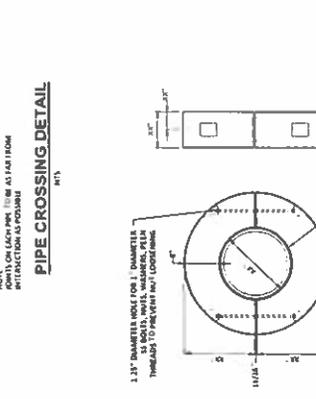
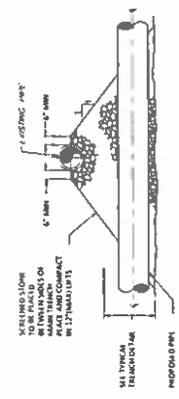
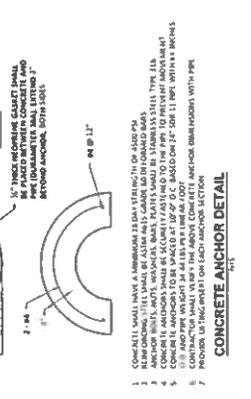
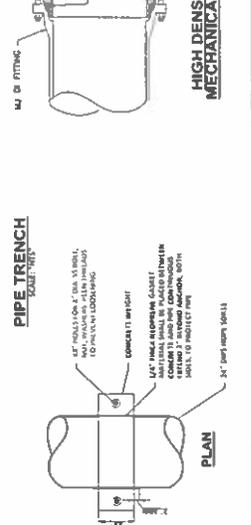
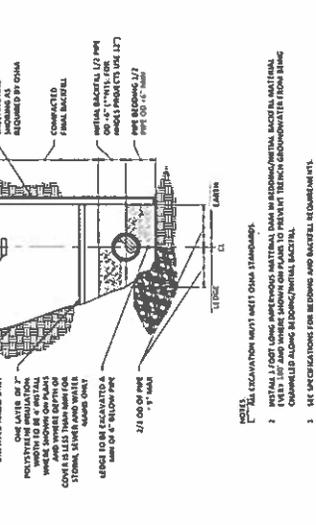
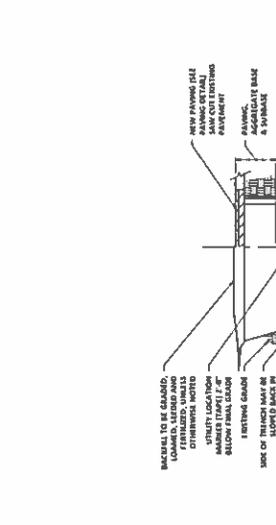
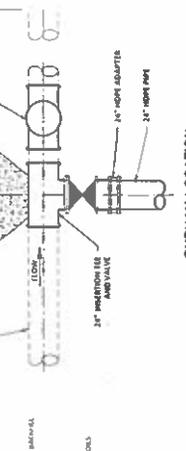


DATE	APR 10, 2019
BY	W.D.G.
PROJECT	WRIGHT-PERCE
DESCRIPTION	NEW WATER MAIN TIE IN DETAIL
SCALE	AS SHOWN
PROJECT NO.	14297A

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CITY OF PORTSMOUTH  
SUBAQUEOUS WATER TRANSMISSION MAIN  
DURHAM-NEWINGTON  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

DRAWING  
C-15



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- 2. ALL JOINTS SHALL BE MADE UP WITH 36\"/>
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